



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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June2010 Minutes

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP SUSTAINABLE ARLINGTON
 JUNE 17, 2010 MEETING Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Deanne Dupont, Emma Heffern, Elizabeth Karpati, Ryan Katofsky, David Landskov, Erica LeBow, Gail McCormick, Charlotte Milan, Brucie Moulton, Megan Rising, Scott Samenfild, Colleen Spindler.
 Facilitator: Charlotte Milan Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: Thurs. July 22 (NOTE CHANGE), Wed. Aug. 18, Thurs. Sept. 23, Wed. Oct. 20, Thurs. Nov. 18, Wed. Dec. 15.
 Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

- The July meeting has been moved from Tues. 7/20 to Thurs. 7/22 because on Tuesday there will be a public information meeting on bus shelters at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium.
- The Recycling Committee (appointed) is looking for a new member. It is planning a recycling event in November.

Planning for next Energy Solutions fair:

- The last one had good attendance but the space (Robbins Community Room) was too small, and too much time was devoted to presentations – these should be held in a separate room from the exhibits.
- The Town is planning another EcoFest, focused on sustainability, next March and is asking SA to help plan it. Do we need a separate fair? Maybe we could do a film series instead. Agenda item for July meeting.
- The question of just what we want to accomplish was raised. We want to educate people and help them take action. Gail suggested that we should educate our politicians, but how to do it?
- We should find out what other groups and communities are doing and cooperate and publicize each other's work so that people can join whatever is most interesting for them.
- Ryan suggested a locavore potluck as a fun annual event.

Committee reports:

- Vision 2020 held its year-end event on June 15 at the DPW and learned about the manifold activities of that department.
- Energy Working Group: Arlington has submitted applications for projects under the Green Communities Act and is working on some energy efficiency measures such as replacing streetlights gradually with LED's (cost \$500 vs. \$90 but much cheaper to run). The new Deputy Town Manager is very interested, wants to chair the Energy Working Group and favors setting aside savings to hire an energy manager.
- The federal EPA has a program for "climate showcase communities." Applications are due at the end of July and require a 50% match which can include volunteer labor. Energy Working Group is trying to decide whether to apply.
- Outreach suggests we should have a presence at the weekly Farmers' Market.
- Website committee has worked on improving navigation and plans to redesign the front page.
- MCAN has received some stimulus money to support the CoolMass campaign. Arlington is not yet participating; it takes a lot of organizing.
- Composting: Ruth Yanetti has applied for a grant for curbside compost bins and is going to a DEP workshop on composting by schools. Some schools have already tried compostable trays. Rob Sargent of Flora restaurant is willing to invite restaurants, supermarkets, and nursing homes to a meeting on composting and solid waste; DPW is supportive.